

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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Parliament House

Canberra ACT 2600

Australia

Submission to the Inquiry into the Fair Work Amendment (Small Business-Penalty Rates Exemption) Bill 2012

I am a permanent employee, working as a registered nurse, currently earning around 30 per hour.

I have a mortgage, have a family and I am able to spend some time with them because I am not pushed to work on all weekends at flat rate.

There are some people who want to work on the weekends as the penalties are incentive for them to undertake such work. Because of that other people can opt not to work on the weekend.

If penalty rates were abolished I would join casual pool and choose not to work on the weekends. Many nurses will do the same thing. Unless premier O'Farrell and all MPs will work on all weekends on lets say flat rate \$80.000 a year I would not be coming to work on the weekend. Shift workers are a huge work force.

If lot of nurses however move to casual pool to avoid your enslaving reforms more patients will die in the hospitals due to inadequate care, more senate seats will be lost for liberals in future.

. Please take into account that most citizens are very concerned about a good health care. Will you be able to ensure that if you have no staff attending patients beds? Please think twice because you will also be affected. As a nurse I have a choice how to work, my patients have none when it comes to getting sick and be exposed to your irresponsible reforms. I am aware that you are talking about small business at the moment but I am disillusioned that health care workers, transport, police are next. As a tax payer I object to mediocre services, which you will deliver in the name of great savings. Pity you are not looking for avenues to save elsewhere.

My weekends are important to me because my friends who work in the offices have them off, enjoy spots, entertainment. All those people have regular days off which they can plan. If there are no penalties for the weekends for shift workers we will be pushed to work on every single weekend

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates as it is unjust to push some people to work weekends while others are allowed to enjoy time off with families and friends. If you want to take penalties away, make sure that all office workers and politicians are forced to work weekends as well

Submitted by

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Friday 28th of September 2012